23. Village Reconstruction & Development Project, Salem, Tamilnadu.
24. Daroga Pd. Roy Mahila Prashikshan Avam Audogik Kendra, Distt. Saran, Bihar.
25. Manab Seva Sadan, Dhenkanal, Orissa.
26. Bagmari Youth Progressive Association, Calcutta.
27. Bhagra Diamond Club, Burdwan, West Bengal.
28. Social Environmental and Rural Technology Council, Pallel, Manipur.
29. Manorma Mahila Mandal, Vaishali.
30. Ramakrishna Ashrama, Distt. Angul (Orissa).
31. Nari Chetna Sangthan, Sonipat Haryana.
32. Chandrika Sewa Sadan Hakimpur Distt. Vaishali, Bihar.
33. Tamil Nadu Village consumer's Protection Council Kavaripettai Tamil Nadu.
34. Gujarat Kelvani Trust Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
35. Sanskrit Bhasa Vikas Parishad Sewapuri Distt. Deoria.
36. Smt. Ambika Devi High School Kanya Vidayalaya Mirzapur, U.P.
37. Akhil Bhartiya Smaj Kalyan Parishad, Distt. Deoria, UP.
38. Manipur Women coordinating Council, Manipur.
39. Mahua Mahila Vikas Sansthan Vaishali (Bihar).
40. Social Welfare of India Shahdra Sharief, Rajori, J & K.
41. Sudha Mahila Samaj Kalyan Parishad, Distt. Nalanda (Bihar).
42. Bijnor Seva Sansthan, Bijnor (UP)
43. Rural Health Organisation, West Senapati Manipur.
44. Dr. Ambedkar Memorial Edu. Society, Bhopal (MP)
45. Dr. A.V. Baliga Trust, New Delhi.
46. Ikhupatrika Social Welfare Organisation, Distt. Midnapore (W.B.)
47. Manipur Rural Institute, Imphal.
48. Samaj Kalyan Seva Samity, Lucknow (U.P.)
49. Project Swarajya, Cuttack, Orissa.
50. Samta Gram Seva Sansthan, Patna, Bihar.
51. Nyssadri, Distt. Dhenkanal (Orissa).

Women Developed Infertility-Bhopal Gas Tragedy

*6. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that women affected in Bhopal Gas Tragedy have developed infertility;

(b) if so, whether women and men in gas affected areas have been medically examined by the Government and if so, the results thereof;

(c) whether any scheme has been prepared by the Government for extending medical help to affected women and men; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Studies carried out by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) did not show any adverse effect of gas exposure on the women's ability to conceive. However, the study indicated higher abortion rates in women from the exposed area as compared to women from unexposed area. No study has been carried out for ascertaining infertility amongst males who were exposed to the gas leak in Bhopal.

(c) and (d) A 5 year Action Plan for medical, economic, social and environmental rehabilitation of the gas victims in the affected areas at a cost of Rs. 163 crores which included Rs. 77 crores for medical rehabilitation was sanctioned in 1990. The major component of the medical rehabilitation component of the Action Plan was to construct and equip four new hospitals to provide 755 beds. The state Government has prepared a new Action Plan for the period April, 1997 to March, 2002 having an outlay of Rs. 316 crores of which medical rehabilitation component is Rs. 246 crores. Construction of a 260 bedded speciality hospital is under progress. This is to be funded by the Union Carbide Corporation.

[English]

Urban Infrastructure Programme

*7. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA:

SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Housing and Urban Development Corporation has sanctioned loan for urban infrastructure programmes in different States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any loan has been committed by the HUDCO for urban infrastructure programmes in Gujarat during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (d) Yes, Sir. Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) since inception and till 30.6.97 has sanctioned 512 Urban Infrastructure Schemes in various States for a total project cost of Rs. 7154.29 crores with HUDCO loan assistance of Rs. 3829.05 crores. The State-wise details are attached as Statement-I.

(c) and (d) During 1.4.1994 and 30.6.1997, HUDCO has sanctioned 9 Urban Infrastructure Schemes in the State of Gujarat for a total project cost of Rs. 160.76 crores with HUDCO loan assistance of Rs. 111.95 crores. Details of these schemes are attached as Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise summary of urban infrastructure schemes sanctioned by Housing and Urban Development schemes (As on 30.6.97)

(Rupees in crores)

Sl. No.	State	No. of Schemes	Project Cost	Loan Amount
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55	665.34	433.27
2.	Assam	19	176.677	111.31
3.	Bihar	4	31.07	20.60
4.	Delhi	8	299.92	184.07
5.	Goa	1	0.66	0.45
6.	Gujarat	17	423.51	219.66
7.	Himachal Pradesh	4	18.21	10.55
8.	Haryana	2	13.96	6.83
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	0.75	0.52
10.	Kerala	41	697.95	403.87
11.	Karnataka	42	1462.05	649.51
12.	Meghalaya	1	3.97	2.33
13.	Maharashtra	24	935.88	428.47
14.	Madhya Pradesh	14	89.39	51.96
15.	Orissa	18	168.96	112.12
16.	Punjab	98	176.20	100.05
17.	Rajasthan	58	356.99	219.12
18.	Tamil Nadu	49	912.83	492.20
19.	Uttar Pradesh	38	340.10	213.78
20.	West Bengal	18	379.90	168.38
	Total	512	7154.29	3829.05

Statement-II

Details of Urban Infrastructure schemes sanctioned in Gujarat During 1.4.1994 to 30.6.1997

Rs. in lakhs

S. No.	Scheme Name	State Agency	Project cost	Loan Amount
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Purchase of Solid Waste M & S.M. Equipment for Municipal Corp. Rajkot.	Municipal Corp. Rajkot	176.46	115.75
2.	Construction of Sewerage treatment plants, Anjana and Bhesan in Surat.	Municipal Corp. Surat	2542.00	1769.00
3.	Construction of 4-Lane High Level Bridge in Surat.	Municipal Corp. Surat	3707.81	2595.60

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Construction of Vivekanand Bridge in Ahmedabad	Municipal Corp. Ahmedabad	1714.91	1190.00
5.	Widening & Construction of M.G. Bridge across river Sabarmati in Ahmedabad.	Municipal Corp. Ahmedabad	836.12	585.24
6.	Widening & Construction of Sardar Patel Bridge Ahmedabad	Municipal Corp. Ahmedabad	914.82	640.35
7.	Construction & Development of 132 ft. road on eastern side of Ahmedabad.	Municipal Corp. Ahmedabad	2051.66	1436.04
8.	Construction & Development of 132 ft. road on western side of Ahmedabad.	Municipal Corp. Ahmedabad	1801.12	1252.87
9.	Improvement of water supply in city of Ahmedabad.	Municipal Corp. Ahmedabad	2331.57	1611.09
	Total		16076.47	11195.94

Stranded Nurses in Kuwait

*8. PROF. P.J. KURIEN:

SHRI T. GOVINDAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 250 Indian nurses were recently stranded in Kuwait and sought refuge in the Indian Embassy as they were denied their job and salaries by the recruiting agency;

(b) if so, details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA): (a) to (c) M/s Abdul Aziz Youset Al-Essa, Kuwait recruited 255 nursing assistants through M/s Santosh Travels, Bombay and manpower agencies in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Of these, 180 nurses assistants struck work and took refuge in the Indian Embassy premises on 22nd May, 1997. Their main demand was that the company should pay a salary of KD 85, as verbally promised to them at the time of recruitment in India, where as the Company was paying KD 60, as per the written agreement.

The Embassy of India, Kuwait made prompt arrangements for food, shelter and adequate medical attendance.

The Embassy also arranged meetings between the company management and the representatives of the nursing assistants. A number of meetings were also arranged with the officials of Ministry of Social Affairs & Labour of Kuwait. The company was not ready to pay more than KD 60 as salary as they had signed a written agreement to that effect, and the nursing assistants were unwilling to work for less than KD 85.

While 35 nursing assistants resumed duty at the stipulated salary of KD 60, 38 others returned to India on tickets provided by the employer, having received all their salary dues. Of the remaining 107 nursing assistants, some have decided to engage a lawyer to take up their case with the Ministry of Social Affairs & Labour or a court and return to India after giving Power of Attorney to the lawyer who will pursue the case in Kuwait. Others have not taken any decision in this regard. While nine of them have left the Embassy on their own, 98 nursing assistants are still